

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-12

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JOINT EMBASSY/USIS MESSAGE

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MOPS, PBOR, SA

SUBJECT: PRESS REACTION TO ARAB/ISRAELI FIGHTING

1. LEADING DAILY AL MADINA CARRIES BANNERLINE:
WILL AMERICA COMPENSATE THE LOSSES OF THE ENEMY?
SUPPORTING AFP STORY DATED LINED WASHINGTON REPORTED THAT
AMERICAN MILITARY SOURCES HAD LEARNED THAT ISRAEL HAS
SUFFERED HEAVY LOSSES, MUCH GREATER THAN SIX DAY WAR.
STORY GOES ON TO SAY SOURCES CLOSE TO U.S. DEPARTMENT
OF DEFENSE HAVE LEARNED ISRAELIS HAVE LOST FIFTY PLANES
AND NINETY TANKS SO FAR AND THAT "OBSERVERS ARE
BEGINNING TO SPECULATE WHETHER NEWS EMANATING FROM
OFFICIAL ISRAELI SOURCES ABOUT HEAVY LOSSES SUFFERED BY
ISRAEL IS AIMED AT CREATING A SUITABLE ATMOSPHERE FOR
REQUESTING THE U.S. TO QUICKLY REPLACE THE MILITARY
EQUIPMENT LOST IN THE RECENT CONFLICT." STORY ALSO
NOTES: "IT IS WORTH MENTIONING THAT AN AGREEMENT EXISTS
BETWEEN ISRAEL AND U.S. PROVIDING FOR THE REPLACEMENT
OF AIRCRAFT WHICH ISRAEL LOSES IN BATTLE."

2. SAUDI CHIEF OF STAFF'S ORDER TO ALL MILITARY PERSON-
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NEL ON LEAVE TO REPORT TO THEIR UNITS IN ORDER "TO DISCHARGE

THEIR SACRED DUTY" ALSO GIVEN HEAVY FRONT PAGE PLAY.

3. OTHER MAJOR STORY LEADS: SAUDI NEWS AGENCY REPORTS FAISAL SENT SPECIAL PLANE WITH SAUDI DOCTORS AND MEDICAL SUPPLIES TO DAMASCUS; PINHAS SAPIR ESTIMATES ISRAELI MATERIAL LOSSES AT FOUR BILLION ISRAELI POUNDS; KISSINGER WARNS SOVIET UNION AGAINST IRRESPONSIBLE BEHAVIOR IN AREA; FULBRIGHT CAKMS FOR WITHDRAWAL OF ISRAELI TROOPS BY PERSUASION OR FORCE; RWANDA AND DAHOMEY SEVER RELATIONS WITH ISRAEL; EGYPTIAN CHIEF OF STAFF SAYS SUEZ CANAL HAS BECOME A GRAVEYARD FOR ENEMY PILOTS; EGYPT ADVANCES 15 KILOMETERS INTO SINAI; ENTIRE ENEMY ARMoured BRIGADE DESTROYED AND COMMANDER CAPTURED; SYRIA SHOOTs DOWN 23 PLANES.

4. MOST SIGNIFICANT EDITORIAL APPEARED IN LEADING DAILY AL MADINA UNDER HEADING OUR CONCEPTION OF OUR DESTINY. COMMENTARY READ IN PART: "NOT THAT THE BATTLE IS IN ITS FIFTH DAY, WE CAN DETECT FOUR PRINCIPAL ASPECTS OF OUR NEW METHOD OF UNDERSTANDING THE ISSUE OF OUR DESTINY: 1 - OUR PERCEPTION OF THE ENEMY'S MIGHT, AND OUR CONTAINMENT, SO FAR, OF HIS COMBAT AND MOBILIZATION CAPACITIES. 2 - DEPENDENCE ON OUR OWN SELVES, CONFIDENCE IN OUR CAPABILITIES AND SIMULTANEOUSLY OUR TRUE ESTIMATION OF THE ENEMY'S ABILITIES. 3 - COMPLETE AWARENESS WHICH CHARACTERIZED THE ARAB INFORMATION MEDIA WITH THEIR NEW METHOD WHICH IS FAR FROM EMOTIONS AND NEWS FABRICATION UNDER THE PRETEXT OF BUILDING UP MORALE. 4 - AWARENESS ON THE PART OF OUR WARRIORS AND OUR ARAB MASSES IN REGARD TO THE RUMORS AND LIES PROPAGATED BY THE ENEMY IN THE FORM OF A VEHEMENT PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE." "EVEN IF WE WERE NOT GOING TO ACHIEVE VICTORY, GOD FORBID, THIS UNDERSTANDING WOULD AT LEAST BE SOMETHING TO TAKE STOCK IN IN OUR NEXT WAR." HORAN

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